

188 Of the NATIVES of

221 sledges, and other uses. The women at this time are busy with
 462 their hemp of nettles, in pulling it up, watering, breaking, peeling, and laying it up in their balagans.

The men in the winter hunt for fables and foxes, weave fishing nets, make sledges, fetch wood, and bring their provisions from several places, which they had prepared in the summer, and could not bring home in the harvest. The women are principally employed in spinning thread for nets.

In the spring, when the rivers begin to thaw, the fish that wintered in them go towards the sea; and the men are busied in catching them or the sea animals that at this time frequent the bays. The people upon the Eastern Ocean catch the sea beaver.

462 All the women go into the fields, where they gather wild garlick,
 221 and other young tender herbs, which they use not only in a scarcity of other provision, which often happens at this season of the
 262 year, but likewise out of luxury; for so fond are they of every thing that is green, that during the whole spring they are seldom without having some of it in their mouths; and though they always bring home a great bundle of greens, they seldom last them above a day.

462 Besides the above-mentioned employments the men are obliged to build their huts and balagans, to heat their huts, dress victuals, feed their dogs, flea the animals, whose skins are used in cloathing, and provide all household and warlike instruments: the women are here the only taylor and shoemakers, for they dress the skins, make the cloaths, shoes, and stockings: it is even a disgrace for the men to do any thing of that sort; so that they looked upon the *Russians* who came here first in a very ridiculous light, when they saw them use either their needle or awl. The women are likewise employed in dying skins, in conjuration, and
 281 curing of the sick. Their method of preparing and dying skins, sewing and joining them, is as follows: every skin which they use

27: Sauer--312-313

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Kamchadal

116, 221, 222, 251

"The Kamtshadals and residentiary Russians employ themselves during the summer in catching fish; drying some, and salting others for a winter supply for themselves and their dogs: in the autumn, in making hay for their cattle, collecting berries, the [313] sweet plant, and kiprey: the former is purchased by government for the distillery of brandy, at three and four roubles the pood when prepared and dried. In the spring they collect birds' eggs about the marshes, and particularly among the rocks at the mouth of the bay of Avatsha: these they preserve all the year with oil."

251 I never could relish their flesh. The Kamtchatdales

262 also derive great benefit from the whales which are

325 numerous, and, which being encountered by the

Kasatka, for the sake of the tongue, as is supposed,

are killed and cast ashore. Upon the whole, there-

fore, there are no people at whose disposition Pro-

vidence has placed more of the necessities of life,

than the inhabitants of Kamtchatka. For their

direct subsistence, they have fish, flesh, and fowl,

wild berries and roots in great variety and abund-

ance, sufficient doubtless to maintain a large popu-

lation; while for clothing, they have immense quan-

tities of furs of the warmest and most durable kind;

137 and for firing and building, wood is every where to

be had in the utmost profusion.

181 Such being the case, it becomes a matter of spe-

433 culation, what could induce the aborigines to live

in that filthy and famished condition which former-

ly characterized them. Was it from an over abund-

ant population, or the want of means to possess

themselves of food—such as guns, nets and traps?

That they had means to entrap game and fish for

a certain proportion of the inhabitants there can be

no doubt, but whether sufficient for a large popula-

tion is very questionable.

157 Of the people in general, I can only say they are

~ 177 as amiable and honest as ever. They are now esta-

221 blished in villages all built in the old Russian style,

which are clean and comfortable. During the sum-

mer or fishing season, they leave their winter resi-

157 dences for the balagans or places which they use
 221 for drying their fish. Thus the summer is employed
 177 in preparing food against the winter, which latter is
 taken up in the chase. Beyond this the Kamtchat-
 dale is still the same lazy, drunken, servile animal
 as formerly. Their ancient language is not forgot-
 ten, but is so far out of use that there are few who
 do not speak Russian. Most of the aborigines are
 baptized, and may be said to live as the Russians
 do. The number of real Kamtchatdales who retain
 their ancient usages is small. They reside on the
 northern coasts beyond Tygil and Nishney Kam-
 tchatsk. Hospitality is the most striking feature in
 their character; but they are also distinguished by
 their strict adherence to truth, and their honesty
 is proverbial. Without being forward to complain
 of ill-treatment, they will fearlessly recount it when
 622 questioned. They are in part governed by their
 631 own Toions or Chiefs, but an annual visit is made
 R to each village by the Ispravnick or Chief Judge,
 177 as well for the purpose of collecting sables as of
 . 63 administering justice.

177 Their dress is the same as formerly, that for the
 291 winter season being made of the skins of beasts;
 435 but in summer they wear nankeens, and at present
 there is hardly a Kamtchatdale who does not wear
 a shirt. The women have also adopted the Rus-
 sian head-dress, the articles for which are procured
 181 from the pedlers at a most exorbitant rate. It is sur-
 435 prising that this people who have now been feeling